

From: Guy Walker
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 10:45am
Subject: Settlement is totally inadequate

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my opinion that the proposed settlement with Microsoft falls far short of what is needed to remedy Microsofts anti-competitive practices. I have worked in the Information Services industry for over 15 years and have experianced first hand the types of issues this settlement is supposed to address. As both a professional, and home, user of Microsoft products including Windows 3.1, 95, 98, 2000 Professional and Server, NT 3.x and 4.0, I have seen an ever increasing tendency for competitor software to run slower or unreliably, as well as a "you have to do" thrust to these operating systems.

You only have to look to the Active Directory implementation in Win2000 to see an example of the latter. I am required to to implement a Microsoft DNS service in order to deploy Active Directory. This is an absolutely ridiculous requirement as companies, people, etc. have been able to run DNS services on other operating systems for ages without causing an issue for other operating systems or software.

Now Microsoft forces the issue by making it a key component of their latest OS while at the same time "end of lifing" prior operating systems that did not have this requirement.

And regarding the first point about Microsoft OSs being "unfavorable" to competitor software. The examples are endless, there is a wealth of research to draw upon, this case examined a number of these and you have experts testimony to support you. I simply wish to note that my first-hand experiance indicate that these claims are true.

I continue to be absolutely dumb-founded that given the wealth of evidence, prior rulings, and Microsoft's history, that you are actually proposing this settlement.

Now, please be aware that I have also built two corporate infrastructures based on Microsoft operating systems and software over the last 4 years and recognize the quality of their products. The issue here is not the quality of the products but rather the right to chose, and not to be penalized or inhibited when that choice is not in Microsoft's favor.

Please reconsider this settlement and make the necessary adjustments to protect both the corporate and casual consumer, as well as maintaining a competative industry.

Guy Walker
Sr. Consultant
Integrity Consulting Associates